

Missouri State Archives

Finding Aid [998.374]

MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

Mt. Vernon State Sanatorium Collection

Abstract: Set of seven glossy picture postcards (five unique images) of the State Sanatorium in Mt. Vernon, MO

Extent: 7 postcards

Physical Description: Postcards

Location: Missouri State Archives; Stacks

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Alternative Formats: TIF

Access Restrictions: None

Publication Restrictions: Standard copyright rules apply

Preferred Citation: [description of item], [date]; *Mt. Vernon State Sanatorium Collection*, Record Group 998.374; Missouri State Archives, Jefferson City.

Acquisition Information: Gift with Letter of Intent; #2010-0182

Processing Information: Processing completed by EW on 09/22/2017. Updated by EW on 03/25/2021.

HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

This hospital was in operation from 1907 to October 31, 2014.

“Founded by the state of Missouri in 1907 as a tuberculosis hospital, Missouri Rehabilitation Center housed TB patients from throughout the state until new medications helped decrease the need to hospitalize patients. Coinciding with the decline in TB was an increase in other lung diseases, brought on by a larger population and a greater incidence of smoking.

“In 1971, the Missouri General Assembly expanded the mission of the institution to include all types of cardiac and pulmonary diseases, including emphysema, bronchitis, bronchiectasis and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), among others. The name was changed to Missouri State Chest Hospital.

“Again, over time, medical advances shortened lengths of stay for these diseases. The success of treatments at Missouri State Chest Hospital, along with new regulations by Medicare, Medicaid and private insurers, brought about a decline in patient census similar to the decline experienced by other hospitals throughout the nation. By the 1980s, it was apparent the hospital was ready for a new direction.

“In 1985, the Missouri General Assembly again changed the facility’s name and mission. This time, it would answer the needs of those who were seriously impaired through accident or injury and who had the capacity for improvement through extensive rehabilitation. General physical rehabilitation programs were begun in late 1985, and the hospital opened its traumatic brain injury (TBI) program in January 1986.

“In 1996, ownership of MRC was transferred to University of Missouri Health Care by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Over the past decade, the number of long-term acute care patients at MRC has steadily declined, due in large part to the growth in the number of competing facilities that provide similar long-term care and rehabilitation services.”

quoted from <http://www.muhealth.org/news/releases/missouri-rehabilitation-center-in-mt-vernon-to-close-oct-31/>

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Related Collections

RG000.115 Department of Health and Senior Services State Documents Collection
RG115 Department of Health and Senior Services
RG181 Missouri State Rehabilitation Center

Additional External Resources

The State Historical Society of Missouri in Columbia maintains the following collections:

[#C0007 Arthur Mastick Hyde Papers, 1913-1954](#) as well as other governors’ papers

[#C1041 Ewing Young Mitchell, Jr. Papers, 1840-1949](#)

[#C2306 C. Jasper Bell Papers, 1934-1948](#)

[#C3475 Missouri Association for Social Welfare Papers, 1908-1971](#)

[#R70 Mothers and Patrons Club of Flat River, Missouri Record Book, 1907-1937](#)

POSTCARDS, 1940s

Extent: 7 Postcards (3 fronts are duplicates)

Arrangement: None

Scope and Content

This is a set of seven glossy (silver gelatin?) picture postcards of the Mt. Vernon State Sanatorium, aka Tuberculosis Hospital, aka Chest Hospital. They likely date from the 1940s; two of them are postmarked 1944. The postcards have been digitized as 400dpi color tiffs and are on Manuscript DVD #4 in the Reference Room.

All photographs except the aerial (Folder 2) are attributed to "Blake." The two postcards that have writing on the back were redacted at some point before coming to the Archives and personal names and addresses were blacked out.

Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Contents	Date
	165	1	Main entrance	1940s
	165	2	Aerial of the building complex	1940s
	165	3	Baker Building. There is a message on the back of the postcard, but it is not stamped or postmarked. Sender writes, "I picked out this card because it said Baker building (you know reminded me of Baker building at D. School.) Well I found out it was the Colored folks building. Take care of them pretty nice too. [blacked out] said I would draw a picture of the Colored folks. Thought I would send it on to you anyway so you could see their quarters. Love [blacked out]."	1940s
	165	4	Administration Building; a few cars are parked out front	1940s
	165	5	Rear view of Administration Building (3 copies). One copy has writing on the front reading, "Thats it." The sender wrote on the back of that copy, "Tuesday P.M. Dearest Dad & [blacked out] bed is just back of the window I have marked & that is where I am writing this card. He is lying here reading & I am writing cards. Am having a nice visit in spite of the heat. Its certainly a nice place here & he is really being taken care of in a nice way. This building is new, very modern & clean as can be. He seems very well satisfied has boys his own age all around & they have a good time when not resting. I am leaving tomorrow will visit at Miami Okla. a few days & see [blacked out] at Lamar before going on to K.C. Hope the heat hasnt got you down. Its trying to rain here now. Will write more later. Love [blacked out]." Card is postmarked 07/12/1944.	c1944